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TOTTINGTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND

Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1954

BURY TIMES

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Tottington Urban District Council

Chairman of the Council:

Councillor W. CHAPPELL, J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
1954.

Councillor C. G. HAMPSON, Chairman.
,, A. C. BIRTWISTLE, Vice-Chairman.
,, R. W. DILLON.
,, H. GREENHALGH.
,, W. HILTON.
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,, J. M. SMITH.
,, J. H. WHITTAKER.
,, D. WOOD.

Clerk of the Council:

A. CUNLIFFE, A.C.C.S.

Medical Officer of Health:

C. H. T. WADE, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

J. E. MORGAN, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk

R. BUTTERWORTH.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954.

Town Hall,
Tottington, Lancs.

To the Chairman and Members of the Tottington Urban District Council.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year 1954 on the health and sanitary conditions of the district.

The mid-year population was estimated to be 5,780. The adjusted birth rate was 15.4, and the adjusted death rate identical with the rates for England and Wales, which were 15.2 and 11.3 respectively.

There were four deaths of infants under one year of age, and three of these occurred in the first month of life. The infant mortality rate is 56 per thousand live births, which is twice the national rate. In the previous year there was only one infant death, which gave a rate of 13 per thousand live births. It will be seen that considerable variations occur from year to year, and a five-year average gives a more reliable figure. This is 32.6. There were no maternal deaths.

There has been no outstanding cause of illness or infection apart from measles. Only 15 cases of infectious disease were notified. This figure includes one case of respiratory Tuberculosis. One case of non-respiratory Tuberculosis was also notified.

Milk sampling revealed one case of Tuberculosis Infection. The diseased cow was detected by the Veterinary Inspector and slaughtered.

The public mains water supply was satisfactory in quality and quantity, but private supplies gave unsatisfactory results on examination. It is advisable to boil water from private supplies before use, and notices to this effect have been fitted to wells.

Ten houses were completed by the Council and two by private enterprise. Demolition Orders were issued in respect of five houses, and undertakings " not to re-let " were accepted in four cases. Improvement Grants have been agreed to in three cases under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and it is expected that further work will be done under this Section of the Act.

My grateful thanks are due to the Members of the Council and staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. H. T. WADE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table 1.—STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area—2,544 acres.

Population—Preliminary Census, 1951, 5824.

Estimated (Mid-1954), 5780.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1954, according to Rate Books—2,062.

Rateable Value—£29,884.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£122.

Table II.—VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	69	33	36	Birth rate per-1,000 of the estimated home population, Mid-1954 :
	Illegitimate....	2	—	2	Crude 12.3
	Total	71	33	38	Adjusted 15.4
Still Births		6	3	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—78.
Deaths		80	45	35	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated home population, mid-1954 : Crude—13.8 Adjusted—11.3

Maternal Mortality :—

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion .... Nil

Mortality Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births .... Nil

Death Rate of Infants under One year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births 56

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total births 78

Neo-natal Mortality :—

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age 3

Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births 42

Deaths of infants under one year of age:—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	4	2	2
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age:—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	3	1	2
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil

Table III.—**CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1954.**

	Males.	Females.
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1	—
Tuberculosis (other forms)	—	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, bronchus	4	—
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	2
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	3	5
Coronary disease, Angina	9	2
Hypertension with heart disease	—	1
Other heart diseases	7	13
Other circulatory diseases	3	1
Pneumonia	1	—
Bronchitis	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	2	—
Congenital Malformations	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	3
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
All other accidents	2	—
All causes	45	35
Total	80	

TABLE IV.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED											TOTAL	HOSPITAL	
	Total Cases at All Ages	AGE PERIODS — YEARS												
		0–	1–	3–	5–	10–	15–	25–	45–	65 and over	Age unknown	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (inc. Membraneous Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (exc. Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excl. Rubella)	91	5	19	30	36	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis—Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non Paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis—Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post Infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria—Contracted in England & Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Contracted abroad	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Any Other Diseases Notifiable in District (e.g. Chicken Pox)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	105	6	19	31	40	2	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	—

Table V.—**TUBERCULOSIS.**

New Cases and Mortality during 1954.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
YEARS	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—2....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2—5....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65—75	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
75 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	1		0		1		0	

Table VI.—**DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.**

1. No. of Individuals who had completed a full course of primary immunisation during 1954:—

AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION..									
0–	1–	2–	3–	4–	Total under 5 years.	5–	10–	Total aged 5–14 incl.	Total aged 15 & over.
29	18	1	1	—	49	2	—	2	—

2. No. of individuals who were given a reinforcement injection during 1954, i.e., subsequent to complete course.

AGE GROUP.				
0–	5–	10–14 inc.	Total 0–14 inc.	Total aged 15 and over.
13	86	49	148	—

3. No. of Children who had completed a course of primary immunisation at any time up to 31.12.54:—

Age at 31.12.54 i.e. Born in year	Under 1 1954	1-4 1953-1950	5-9 1949-1945	10-14 1944-1940	Total under 15
No. immunised	—	208	396	390	994

Child Welfare Centre.

The clinic and child welfare centre is established in Kirklees Street, Tottington, and is opened as follows:—

Fixed Sessions:

Monday (p.m.) Toddlers' Clinic (monthly only).

Wednesday (a.m.)—School Children Inspection.

Wednesday (p.m.)—Infant Clinic.

Friday (a.m.)— Minor ailments, school children and infants.

Other Sessions (as required):

Immunization Clinic— held monthly.

Medical Inspections School children.

Boarded-out children.

Superannuation positions.

Ambulance Service.

This is the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council, and was taken over by them from 1st August, 1951.

Facilities are provided by the County Council for the use of the Ramsbottom Ambulance, when required.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

No. of new houses erected during the year :-

	Houses	Flats
(1) By the local authority	10	Nil
(2) By other local authorities	Nil	Nil
(3) By other bodies or persons	2	Nil

1. Inspections of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 107

(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 115

(2) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 9

(3) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 68

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 34

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936:

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served, requiring repairs . Nil

(2) No. of dwelling houses which, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit:—

(a) By owners .... Nil

(b) By local authority in default of owners Nil

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .... Nil

(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:

(a) By owners .... Nil

(b) By local authority in default of owners Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 5

(2) No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .... Nil

(3) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings "not to re-let" were accepted by the local authority 4

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(1) No. of dwelling houses, separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .... Nil

(2) No. of Closing Orders which were determined, the premises having been rendered fit .... Nil

(e) Proceedings under Section 25 of the Housing Act, Act, 1936:

No. of Clearance Areas represented .... Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

(a) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .... Not known

(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .... Nil

(c) (1) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 7

(2) No. of persons concerned in such cases 27

5. Housing Acts, 1949-54.—Improvement Grants, etc.:

(a) (1) No. of schemes submitted:—

(a) By private individuals to local authority 3

(b) By local authority to Ministry .... Nil

(2) No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected 3

(b) (1) No. of schemes finally approved 3

(2) No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected 3

(3) No. of additional separate dwellings to be provided under these approved schemes .... Nil

(c) No. of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year .... Nil

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

The Irwell Valley Water Board supplies 1,779 houses with piped mains water, whilst approximately 214 houses are supplied with water from private supplies (wells and springs).

Reports of Water Samples.

During the year, 19 samples were taken from private supplies (wells and springs), and submitted for analysis, whilst one other was taken from the mains supply of the Irwell Valley Water Board.

Reports were as follows :—

Date	Location of Supply	Result
4/1/54	Gorsey Clough Well, Tottington	Satisfactory
4/1/54	Four Lane Ends, Tottington	Satisfactory
11/1/54	34 Cann Street, Tottington	Satisfactory
11/1/54	opp. Teddy Acre, Tottington	Unsatisfactory
11/1/54	9 Cann Street, Tottington	Unsatisfactory
11/1/54	Gorsey Clough Well, Tottington	Unsatisfactory
18/1/54	Pack Horse Inn, Affetside	Unsatisfactory
18/1/54	Hr. Fold Farm, Affetside	Unsatisfactory
18/1/54	Four Lane Ends, Tottington	Satisfactory
26/1/54	Gorsey Clough Well, Tottington	Satisfactory
27/1/54	Hr. Fold Farm, Affetside	Satisfactory
27/1/54	90 Watling Street, Affetside	Unsatisfactory
27/1/54	64 Watling Street, Affetside	Unsatisfactory
27/1/54	56 Watling Street, Affetside	Satisfactory
27/1/54	42 Watling Street, Affetside	Unsatisfactory
2/3/54	Town Hall Buildings, Tottington	Satisfactory
31/3/54	Four Lane Ends, Tottington	Unsatisfactory
31/3/54	Gorsey Clough Well, Tottington	Unsatisfactory
7/8/54	Gorsey Clough Well, Tottington	Unsatisfactory
7/8/54	Four Lane Ends, Tottington	Unsatisfactory

In addition to these, further samples were taken from known polluted supplies with a view to carrying out tests with a portable pressure filter.

Reports are as follows :—

Date	Location	Reports	
		Before Filtration	After Filt.
9/ 9/54	9 Cann Street	Col. Bac. 180 plus Faecal. 25	Nil
14/ 9/54	Gorsey Clough Well	Col. Bac. 180 plus Faecal. 180 plus	Nil
14/ 9/54	Four Lane Ends	Col. Bac. 180 plus Faecal. 90	Nil
14/ 9/54	108 Watling Street	Col. Bac. 50 Faecal. 8	Nil
23/ 9/54	Whittaker Fold (Cann Street)	Col. Bac. 25 Faecal. 25	Nil
23/ 9/54	Teddy Acre (Cann Street)	Col. Bac. 40 Faecal. 14	Nil
23/ 9/54	34 Cann Street	Col. Bac. 18 Faecal. 1	Nil
30/ 9/54	29 Bradshaw Road	Col. Bac. 180 plus Faecal. 180 plus	Nil
30/ 9/54	Smithy Fold (Watling Street)	Col. Bac. 180 plus Faecal. 180 plus	Nil
30/ 9/54	Field, Gorsey Clough	Col. Bac. 180 plus Faecal. 180 plus	Nil
20/10/54	Pack Horse Inn (Pump)	Col. Bac. 1 Faecal. 1	Nil
20/10/54	42 Watling Street	Col. Bac. 160 Faecal. 160	Nil
20/10/54	56 Watling Street	Col. Bac. 3 Faecal. 1	Nil
27/10/54	Teddy Acre (Cann Street)	Col. Bac. 8 Faecal. 8	Nil
27/10/54	50 Cann Street	Col. Bac. 90 Faecal. 35	Nil
27/10/54	"Lynton", Watling Street	Col. Bac. 14 Faecal. 14	Nil
1/11/54	Four Lane Ends	Col. Bac. Nil Faecal. Nil	Nil
1/11/54	27 Bradshaw Road	Col. Bac. Nil Faecal. Nil	Nil
2/11/54	Well opposite 310 Turton Rd.	Col. Bac. 3 Faecal. 2	Nil
2/11/54	Black Lane Cottages	Col. Bac. 180 plus Faecal. 35	Nil
2/11/54	Three Gates Farm (well)	Col. Bac. 90 Faecal. 50	Nil
23/11/54	Walshaw Hall Farm	Col. Bac. 50 Faecal. 5	Nil

18 New houses were connected to the mains supply during the year.

2. Sewerage and Drainage.

The majority of properties are connected to the main sewers, which deliver into the sewage works at Bury for treatment. The need for main drainage in the Greenmount area to replace the septic tank systems remains apparent. The outlying areas of Bradshaw Road, Watling Street, Harwood Road, Cann Street, and Turton Road are also not sewered.

3. Conversion of Insanitary Type Closets.

Details of conversions carried out during the year are given hereunder :—

(a) No. of privy closets to fresh W.C.s	Nil
(b) No. of privy closets to pails, etc.	8
(c) No. of pail closets to fresh W.C.s	1
(d) No. of trough closets to fresh W.C.s	Nil
(e) No. of tipplers to fresh W.C.s	7

The Council is pursuing its policy of paying 50% of the costs reasonably incurred in the carrying out of conversions to the water carriage system. The conversion of tipplers to fresh water closets is also proceeding.

4. Public Cleansing.

The Council provide a weekly collection of house refuse and night soil from pails and middens. House refuse is disposed of by partially controlled tipping, and the night soil is discharged into a manhole on the main sewerage system.

5. Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

(a) Food premises.

The majority of the food premises within the district are of the house and shop type, being owned by the occupier.

The following is a list of such premises within the area :—

Type of Food Premises.	Number.
General Grocers	10
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	6
Butchers	8
Bakers and Confectioners	14
Fried Fish Shops	3
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, ice-cream, etc.	12
Licensed Premises, etc.	12
Cafes	1
Markets	Nil

The number of premises registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, are :—

Type of Business.	No. registered
Ice Cream	12
Butchers	8
Fish Friers	3

During the course of inspection the following small quantities of food were found to be unfit for human consumption, and were voluntarily surrendered by the retailers :—

Type of food.	Quantity.
Spaghetti in tomato, with cheese	78 tins.
Meat Soup	20 tins.
Spaghetti in Meat Sauce	104 tins.
Beetroot	168 tins.
Runner Beans	18 tins.
Hake	9 lbs.
Corned Beef with cereal	1½ lbs.

There is no licensed slaughterhouse operating within the Urban District, and meat supplied to shops is slaughtered and inspected in neighbouring districts.

(b) Licensed Hotels and Inns.

There are eleven licensed houses and two licensed clubs within the area.

During the year, all licensed hotels and inns in the district were visited. Generally, conditions were found to be good.

(c) Milk Supply.

During the year, 24 samples of milk were taken from distributors in the area, and submitted for examination for Tubercular infection. One sample was found to be infected; the Veterinary Inspector was informed. The herd concerned was examined, and the diseased animal seized under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, and slaughtered.

One sample of " Pasteurised " milk was taken and submitted for the appropriate analysis. This sample proved to be satisfactory.

Two samples of " Sterilised " milk were taken and submitted for the appropriate test. Both samples proved satisfactory.

Licences Issued.

No. of registered Distributors	1
,, of dealers' licences issued by the local authority in respect of " Pasteurised " milk	4
,, dealers' licences issued by the local authority in respect of " Sterilised " milk	9

(d) Ice Cream.

Ten premises retail Ice Cream of the pre-packed type, and there are two manufacturers in the district. The dealers obtain their supplies from outside the area, whilst the manufacturers use the Heat Treatment method.

Apparatus used by the manufacturers conforms to the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, and all premises conform with the legal requirements and are registered in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year, samples were taken from various retailers and submitted for analysis. All proved to be Grade 1.

(e) Food Poisoning.

There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.

6. Factories Act, 1937.

The following is a list of trades carried on at factories within the Urban District:—

Laundering.	Motor Vehicle Repair.
Cotton Weaving.	Firelighter manufacture.
Raising and Finishing.	General Engineering.
Artificial Silk Manufacture.	Foundering.
Manufacture of Starch.	Baking.
Carpet Sewing.	Manufacture of Ice Cream.

Due to the situation of some of the factories, the disposal of sewage presents a problem. The sanitary accommodation in these instances is provided by pail closets, and these will be converted to the water carriage system when sewers are available.

A number of observations were made during the year, and co-operation is established with individual firms with a view to the prevention of emission of black smoke.

7. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The work of Rats and Mice destruction in the area has proceeded satisfactorily. Maintenance treatments of the town sewers have been completed, and the results are as follows:—

(a) **First Maintenance Treatment.**

No. of sewer manholes test-baited prior to treatment 23

(approximately 10% of the sewer manholes in the district are test-baited prior to the first maintenance treatment, each year.)

No. of sewer manholes	test-baited, showing " takes "	3
,, ,,	baited for treatment	39
,, ,,	showing partial " takes "	Nil
,, ,,	showing complete " takes "....	Nil
,, ,,	showing no " takes "	39

(b) **Second Maintenance Treatment.**

No. of sewer manholes	baited for treatment	17
,, ,,	showing partial " takes "	1
,, ,,	showing complete " takes " .	1
,, ,,	showing no " takes "	15

The bait base was deposited on the benching of the manholes, each manhole being pre-baited upon consecutive days. On the third day of treatment a proportionate amount of poison was added to the bait base, and laid at all points showing a " take " of pre-bait, for two manholes on each side of that point.

During the year, periodical inspections were carried out to all categories of premises. 8 premises were treated successfully, whilst the refuse tips at Bury Road and Turton Road each received treatments which were satisfactory.

The work is carried out by an operator assisted by a labourer. The operator is a member of the office staff who is delegated to perform this duty.

8. Schools.

There are seven schools within the district. Affetside School has no piped water supply, and the sanitary accommodation at this school comprises four " Elsan " type chemical closets and one urinal.

School meals are prepared at the Tottington Central Kitchen and conveyed in containers to the individual schools.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number and Nature of Inspections made during 1954.

Number of	complaints received	157
,,	complaints investigated	157
,,	visits re cases of Infectious Disease	6
,,	disinfections after Infectious Disease	2
,,	inspections of dirty and/or verminous premises	14
,,	disinfestations of verminous premises	3
,,	visits re water supply	48
,,	visits re conversions	18
,,	drainage inspections	47
,,	visits re moveable buildings	23
,,	visits to food shops	51
,,	visits to food preparing premises	18
,,	visits to places of public entertainment	7
,,	visits re Rats and Mice	69
,,	visits re Refuse collection and disposal	76
,,	visits to Factories	15
,,	visits re smoke abatement	6
,,	visits re Housing defects	107

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

J. E. MORGAN,

Sanitary Inspector.